



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

BOLIVIA

SUPPORT TO COCHABAMBA

Through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government has a comprehensive assistance program that supports the Bolivian Government's National Development Plan.



A group of landowners in the Chapare region of Cochabamba proudly receive their land titles thanks to USAID support.

Through its official foreign assistance agency, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government supports development in 31 municipalities in the department of Cochabamba. Projects seek to reduce poverty through economic growth generated by enterprise development and increased productivity; improve access to health care for the poor; strengthen democratic processes and institutions; and promote environmental protection and conservation. USAID programs create opportunities for marginalized populations, promoting their social, political, and economic inclusion.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARM FAMILIES AND SMALL BUSINESSES

USAID programs directly support the productive pillar of Bolivia's National Development Plan. Through our assistance, more than 12,000 producers in the valleys of Cochabamba are now selling a variety of products for domestic and international markets, including the United States. They include onions, peanuts, hot peppers, spices, tomatoes, peaches, and dairy products. For example, when USAID assisted approximately 7,000 families to improve their onion crop, the increase in international sales gave participating families a 75 percent income boost on average.

USAID has strengthened financial institutions and credit unions with innovative services. At the end of 2005, USAID helped to finance a branch of the San José de Punata Credit Union in Cliza. We also helped launch an electronic transaction system "ServiRed", based in the city of Cochabamba. Through a Rural Finance Expansion Grant, USAID helped open another credit union branch in Vinto and a PRODEM branch in Tarata to expand micro credit services. All of these activities increased financial services to underserved populations in both urban and rural communities.

USAID also supports Cochabamba's textile, apparel and timber industries, with technical assistance helping to improve business practices and product quality for increased domestic and international sales.

INTEGRATED ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT

The program provides farmers with alternatives to coca such as bananas, heart of palm, pineapple, and papaya. These efforts support the Government of Bolivia's coca control efforts. Partners include farmers, grower associations, businesses, municipalities, and rural communities. The program also provides funding for road maintenance and improvement, community development, improved health, natural resource management, land titling, and more competitive rural enterprises. USAID's program is an important part of the U.S. and Bolivia's counter-narcotics partnership and directly supports Bolivia's National Development Plan.



USAID programs in Cochabamba give assistance to farmers, grower associations, businesses, municipalities, and rural communities.

IMPROVED ACCESS TO JUSTICE

USAID works with Bolivia to strengthen democratic institutions and improve the justice system. Since 2004, in coordination with Bolivia's Ministry of Justice and judicial branch, the agency has supported the Integrated Justice Center in Chimoré, in the Chapare region. The center offers conciliation and dispute resolution, legal support for victims of domestic violence and other services that support citizen access to justice. In addition, USAID has worked with the judicial branch, the public ministry and the *Fuerza Especial de Lucha Contra el Crimen* (FELCC) to strengthen customer services in their offices in Cochabamba, improving citizen access to legal services.

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF BOLIVIANS

USAID seeks to improve the health of underserved Bolivians by increasing access to quality health services through the strengthening public and NGO health facilities and networks. Our program supports the Ministry of Health's policy of extending services to rural areas, with a special focus on family and community health.

With U.S. support, Bolivia's largest private health network, PROSALUD, each year provides health care to about 500,000 people from low-income families in six Bolivian departments. In Cochabamba, USAID supports PROSALUD's clinic, which serves about 30,000 people each year, as well as CIES, a Bolivian organization specializing in integrated care for women and infants that operates two clinics in the cities of Cochabamba and Quillacollo. CIES facilities served about 30,000 people in 2006.

In addition, the community health project Partners for Development helped to fight Chagas disease by improving some 100 households in two rural communities. One method involved using modern building materials – replacing straw roofs with tile – to prevent insects that carry the disease from nesting in homes.

ENVIRONMENT

USAID has provided key logistical and administrative support to Carrasco National Park in setting its boundaries in consultation with local and national authorities and interests, and has helped to develop income generating opportunities for more than 6,500 families in this region.

EFFECTIVE DEPARTMENTAL GOVERNMENTS

As it does worldwide, USAID is providing technical assistance in basic institutional strengthening and training to Bolivia's departmental governments to help them assume more effectively their new roles in planning, financing, and delivering services to citizens. In Cochabamba, USAID provides support to the prefecture in promoting regional economic development and de-concentrating public investment and services.

USAID in COCHABAMBA

Municipalities where at least one USAID Project is Active

